

THE Bloomfield Record.

A WEEKLY JOURNAL

S. MORRIS HULIN, Editor and Proprietor

Office 29 Broad Street.



FRIDAY, JANUARY 31 1896

The Tramp Problem.

A correspondent this week touches upon the Tramp Problem, certainly a vexatious one. The Railwayman, or any plan of driving the tramps out of one town into another, if universally carried out, would drive them out of New Jersey perhaps into the Atlantic Ocean. Would it not be more accord with the dictates of humanity to provide capital punishment for the tramp as well as other criminals? How would it do for the New York Street Cleaning Department to join forces with the Metropolitan Police Department before turning those "tramps adrift"? For a further hint read Victor Hugo's description of the chain-gangs en route from Paris to the galley at Toulon. The American tramps could be quietly taken out of the station houses at night, linked together, carted down to the docks along with the other rubbish, loaded on to the garbage gows and then towed down the river and dumped into the ocean. The only trouble about this remedy might come through the sensational reporters, who might make much of a little incident like that. Newspapers, at liberty to chronicle or criticize social or municipal affairs in France, did not exist when breaking a pane of glass and seizing a loaf of bread was a sufficient crime to consign a man to a living death in the galley's man this century.

The remedy proposed would obviously need to be approached by degrees. Until some one capable of construing the New Testament from a "lawyer's standpoint" made it clear that tramps were a species of animal past reclamation in this life, or resurrection in the next, it would be regarded as impolite.

The only rational solution of the tramp and poverty problem lies in the work problem, through the radical abolition of human parasitism or its every manifestation.

Slangwhanging.

(Up to date.) It is for the people of Glen Ridge to choose between eternal obtaining and a present opportunity of obtaining every municipal advantage they started out to obtain under the bough.

If Glen Ridge has to be whipped into line it will be treated as a conquered province.

"THE RECORD" is again shrieking its rebel yell of "Let Glen Ridge go!" The editor of THE RECORD is liable to awake some morning and find himself the only rebel left. Had better confine himself to abusing the Bloomfield National Bank, the Bloomfield Coal and Supply Company, and prominent Bloomfielders who have been more successful than life itself."

Perhaps the only comment necessary to be made on such stuff as the above is to say, that whether Glen Ridge becomes a "conquered province" or maintains her separate political status, no amount of vile misrepresentation is going to subjugate THE BLOOMFIELD RECORD. Its editor knows "what he is talking about." Slangwhanging will not force him to relax his efforts for the welfare of this community, without regard to its sectional or merely municipal bounds.

Stop the litigation. Relegate "Jane Pinkney" to the oblivion of "War Vomica." Muzzle all the dogs of war. Let us have peace.

Sewer Difficulties.

Again Engineer Owen, to excusively neglect in providing a suitable measuring apparatus in the sewer at the eastern line of Montclair in accordance with the Montclair-Bloomfield contract, stated to the Council on Monday night that the flow could be accurately determined with a stick to get the depth of sewage (and spring water) and figure out the velocity to the flow. It may be well to state that the flow of sewage from Montclair, Bloomfield and Glen Ridge is measured by Orange with a weir and not with a stick.

The above is taken from the Montclair Herald. It is now about a year since the report in arbitration of the dispute between Engineers Cady of Bloomfield and Owen of Montclair was submitted by Engineer Haring to the effect that a weir should be provided for the purpose stated. The decision by arbitration seems to have been considerable money wasted or thrown away—as a good deal more

has been upon sewers and Glen Ridge litigation.

In the Montclair Council, when the matter of paying to Orange a bill for one quarter's use of the outlet, never came up, Engineer Owen said that "at the present time there was a dispute between Glen Ridge and Bloomfield, and the actual share of each would be hard of determination," and suggested that "a joint board of Montclair, Bloomfield and Glen Ridge come together and settle the proportion of each."

The Tramps are Coming.

To the Editor of The Record:

On the 14th of February a host of tramps, thousands of them, will be turned loose into the streets of New York and vicinity, for on that day will cease the free lodgings provided for them by the Police Board. "It has been the custom for years to give free lodgings at the various station houses to the men and all who may be in need. The custom has been that an army of professional "professional" parasites, a large percentage of whom are criminal by instinct and habit, has been scattered on the streets by day and had free lodgings by night.

On the 14th of February that condition of affairs will cease, for free lodgings will then be abolished, and these thousands of human vermin will be turned adrift to seek lodgings elsewhere. As a result probably one-half of this number will seek new and more pleasant field among the suburban towns. There can be no doubt but that a small army will be garrisoned in the towns of Bloomfield and Glen Ridge. The question is, "Are we ready for them?"

It will do to wait until we are assured of the presence of these criminals and something serious happens, such as robbery, assault or even murder, such as occurred in Yonkers a few days ago, before stronger measures are taken. Too many robberies have already occurred and no arrests made. Let the proper officials see to it in time that such steps are taken that the tramps will give our town as well as others as they do to us. We are a town of communists and many women and children are unprotected during the day and frequently during the evening. Let the tramps remain here for the evening. Let the tramps remain here stamped out by strong, efficient and speedy measures. Give us, my city fathers, strong laws against all tramps, better police system, street lights all night.

PROTECTION.

Electric Lighting.

To the Editor of The Record:

The question of lighting our town with electric lights has been before us for the past year or so, and we have gotten so far as to advertise for bids, a number of which have been received and are now in the hands of the committee appointed to take the matter in charge. From what the writer can gather in the way of information the committee seem to be in a fog as to what is best to do, and apparently are unable to determine what bids to turn out as being excessive and what to keep before them for consideration. If the parties having the matter in charge are not sufficiently familiar with electrical matters to know the difference between coal and wheat it would be advisable to call for an expert in these matters, the sample is to be found in other branches of engineering and manufacturing. In the description of a contract, a granting of a franchise to the state of a private consumer should not be overlooked and should be granted to the fullest extent, for where a franchise is granted for municipal work and in the franchise is entrusted the right to supply private consumers, it is possible that the company seeking the franchise will bid low on street lighting and aim to get from the private consumer any deficiency that may accrue therefrom. It is also barely possible that while our committee are making up their minds what is best to be done that some other illuminating medium will be discovered that will cast electricity in the dark. This matter has been in question so long that it is high time to do something or abandon the plan altogether. Bringing this matter to a focus will relieve

ON THE SUBJECT.

Who is Responsible?

To the Editor of The Record:

To the uninitiated mind of the writer it seems as though the contractor who constructed the sewers that were put down this past summer, between the park and the canal did not comply with their agreement regarding the repairing of streets through which said sewers were laid. It is customary in most towns to particularly specify in the agreement entered into between the township and contractors that where the contractors dug up the metadam roads that they shall repair them upon completion of their work and leave them in as good shape and condition as they were before the work was begun. It is quite possible that at this late date all the streets that have been torn up have been accepted and paid for as being so repaired, but such is not the case in Liberty Street, Belleville and Oakland Avenues. One of these streets in particular has holes in the centre or depressions which hold the water and which should have been filled by the contractors with fine broken stone as was taken out in excavation. The present condition of Spruce Street from Liberty Street to the Greenwood Lake Railroad is one to be pointed out with pride to visiting wheelmen. Also Fremont Street, Monroe and Austin Places. It may be said that the weather has not permitted such repairs and if that is so provision has probably been made in the contract to cover the point of four or five winter months' intervention. In most sections before house-constructions for gas, water or sewerage are commenced, the party doing the work is required to file a bond that all streets broken into will be returned to their original condition. There is no use for this township to expend large sums yearly for the construction of hard roads that are to be torn up again, always leaving the same holes to be filled in and leave the roads in any shape he sees fit when he gets through. It should be the duty of those in charge of the roads and house connections to see that these matters are attended to.

OBSERVER.

Legible Street Signs Wanted.

Editor of The Record:

A person who has occasion to come to our town at night and wants to find out the location or name of any street is obliged to seek information in some store to find out where he is. When the town, street corners, the contract for placing signs at street corners were neglected to provide the public in general with either signs or opera glasses. In many instances the signs at the present day are in such condition that any one unfamiliar with names has to climb up on a lamp-post and ascertain the sense of touch. This is not as it should be. When these signs were put up the people's money for something at least that would remain presentable during their term of office.

We can find better and more readable signs on in our midst. Glass signs should have been provided and should be even at this late post. How long will it look to us to see on a lamp-post on entering the town, "Buy your coal at Counter's" or some such thing? This sign question is an important one and should be attended to very body for us.

LATE WORKER.

Obituary.

Patrick Ward died on Sunday morning after a lingering illness of consumption, aged 27 years. A widow and two children survive him. Funeral services were held from the residence of his father-in-law, John Cullen, No. 35 Hickory Street, on Tuesday morning, and at the Church of the Sacred Heart. Interment was made in Mount Olivet Cemetery.

Hood's Patent Bureau.

Patients grand d'Amiens, France, Rev. James Beveridge Lee, Pastor;

WESKINER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, Rev. Geo. A. Pauli, pastor;

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